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The Evening Herald

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CRISIS SHIFTS FROM CONGRESS TO EXCHANGES OF DIPLOMATS

Federal Trade Commission to Probe Alleged Baseball Trust

Federal League Magnate Declares Officers Have Been Asked for Books and Papers of Dead Organization.

BALTIMORE CLUB AND PLAYERS MAY COMPLAIN

Assessment of \$10,300 to Be Raised Among Five Members of Association to Wind Up Business Affairs.

(By Evening Herald Leased Wire) Chicago, Feb. 26.—The Federal trade commission is planning an investigation of organized baseball and its relations to the Sherman antitrust law, according to a statement today by James A. Gilmore, who arrived from New York to attend the final meeting of the Federal league magnates.

Officers of the commission at Washington, Mr. Gilmore said, have asked the Federal league to its papers filed in the suit here last winter and recently dismissed by Judge Laddie following the peace compact, copy a reorganization of the methods of conducting the game will insure avoidance of future litigation. Mr. Gilmore predicted.

He cited the Baltimore League club as a possible plaintiff in new suits and also hinted the ball players returning might find cause for court action.

An assessment of \$10,300 to be raised this afternoon among the five clubs which remain in good standing in the defunct league will clear up its indebtedness and practically wind up its business.

Around the base ball clubs today was said Charles Thomas, former president of the Chicago Cubs, might be the next owner of the Toledo American association club. John Gangel, who had \$40,000 for the club and he had drawn out of the bank.

Washington, Feb. 26.—The federal trade commission, it was explained at its offices today, has no intention of investigating organized baseball. Parks and the commission, having collected a collection of papers in all antitrust suits and had requested a copy of the complaint in the Federal league suit.

ANOTHER ARMED ITALIAN STEAMER REACHES PORT

New York, Feb. 26.—The Napoli, the third Italian steamer to arrive here within the last few days with guns mounted, arrived today. The Napoli carried two 15-inch guns. She is a freighter and carries no passengers.

Chairman Elwood of the house foreign affairs committee exchanged views with Secretary Lansing at the state department.

Senator Louis of Illinois, Democratic whip of the senate, notified Senator Stone that the supporters of the president were ready for the three resolution to warn Americans against selling or arming merchantmen to come to a vote at any time. He said a majority of the senate showed there would be a safe majority against the resolution.

Senator Lewis had prepared a resolution which would commit the senate to an endorsement of the present interventionist policy in the present diplomatic crisis, but could not introduce it today under the rules.

WANTS TO SERVE JAIL SENTENCE IN CALIFORNIA FIRST

(By Evening Herald Leased Wire) Tampa, Fla., Feb. 26.—J. Grant Lyons, under federal indictment in New York on charges of using the mails to defraud while operating under the firm name of John H. Puram and Company, today admitted his identity when taken before a United States commissioner for examination.

Lyman expressed a desire to be returned to California, where he is under sentence to serve eighteen months on another charge. In a statement Lyman said:

"I was sentenced to prison in California, but would just as soon serve that sentence in the federal prison at Atlanta, if that would be of any convenience to the federal government. My bond has not been forfeited. If I choose to surrender to my bondsmen I have every right to do so and that is my intention. When I am released from prison the New York authorities can do what they see fit, but not before. Nobody can keep me out of jail if I want to go in."

SPANISH MINISTER OF FINANCE RESIGNS

(By Evening Herald Leased Wire) Madrid, Feb. 26 (via Paris, Feb. 26)—Finance Minister Utrera has resigned on account of differences of opinion with the other members of the cabinet regarding the financial policy of the government.

PEACE IN SIGHT IN SIOUX CITY PACKING PLANTS

Both Sides Reported Eager to End Strike Which Has Tied Up Plants for Several Days; Conference Held.

(By Evening Herald Leased Wire) Sioux City, Iowa, Feb. 26.—A peace conference between packing house strikers and managers of the plants was in progress at noon. It was reported that the indications were favorable for a settlement. Both sides seem anxious to end the strike.

M. R. Murphy of Omaha, general manager of the Cudahy packing plants, made the statement that the Cudahy and Armour Packing companies will immediately advance the wages of employees in all their packing plants eight per cent.

This is much less than the increase asked for by the strikers. It was announced sometime ago that the companies intended such an advance. May 1, it was stated that the increase would be about one cent an hour for common laborers and proportionately for expert workers.

The strikers ask ten cents an hour for managers and a much larger increase for others.

At 2 o'clock this afternoon, when the packing house peace conference adjourned, it was announced that the prospects of a settlement were very bright. The strikers will consider the terms offered at a mass meeting late this afternoon.

WAGE INCREASE OF EIGHT PER CENT IS GRANTED

Omaha, Neb., Feb. 26—Officials of the Armour and Cudahy Packing companies here today confirmed the announcement from Sioux City of a raise of eight per cent in wages paid employees. The increase also applies to the plants in Omaha and is effective next Monday.

COLORADO NOW HAS ANOTHER MINE STRIKE

(By Evening Herald Leased Wire) Leadville, Colo., Feb. 26.—Between 200 and 300 employees of the Arkansas valley plant of the American Smelting and Refining company struck today for a wage increase of six cents a day and adjustment of certain grievances. Efforts were made to keep furnaces going. Several mines have been notified that no ore can be received at present. It was understood that only men in the smelting department and a few wheelers were at work.

Early today several men were arrested on charges of interfering with employees on their way to work.

LABOR FEDERATION PROTESTS INCREASE IN CLERKS' HOURS

(By Evening Herald Leased Wire) Washington, Feb. 26.—At the direction of its executive council at session here, the American Federation of Labor today protested to require government clerks here to work not less than eight hours a day. This now makes at least seven.

Representative Borland, author of the proposal, said the executive committee to recommend its action.

Aeroplanes Fly Over Elevators and Powder Mill

Watchmen at Grain Storage Points on Lake Superior See Airmen Thousands of Feet Above Them.

(By Evening Herald Leased Wire) Superior, Wis., Feb. 26.—Watchmen guarding big grain elevators containing millions of bushels of wheat for the allies had retired early to bed when an aeroplane, soaring 3,000 feet in the air, circled above the docks for half an hour.

The machine was observed just before dawn. When it became light it disappeared in the direction of the new plant of the Minnesota Steel company on the St. Louis river.

An aeroplane recently was sighted near the Du Bois powder plant at Washburn.

FARM HAND SECURES JUDGMENT FOR 20 YEARS' BACK WAGES

(By Evening Herald Leased Wire) Des Moines, Iowa, Feb. 26.—Lewis O. Bates, a farm hand who worked for twenty years on farms owned by the late Edward Howell and his daughter Jeanne without salary, excepting as reward that Miss Howell should be his wife, will receive \$2,000 as the result of a jury's decision in the Polk county district court.

Both Howell and Miss Howell died. Bates sued the estate for \$10,000.

House Military Board Approves Plans for Army Of 140,000

Slightly Larger Force Than Asked by Department Provided For in Bill Endorsed by Committee.

ESTIMATE OF NEEDED OFFICERS INCREASED

Proposal to Make Total Strength of Peace Establishment 150,000 Is Beaten by Single Vote.

(By Evening Herald Leased Wire) Washington, Feb. 26.—The House military committee late today voted for a regular standing army of 142,000 men, with a two per cent allowance for recruiting, raising the number up to 149,000, which is slightly more than the war department asked. The Republicans and threeDemocrats voted the bill.

Voting in the committee began at 2 o'clock this afternoon, when a proposal for 220,000 men was beaten by one vote. Then the Republicans and three Democrats put through the provision as it was finally agreed on by the committee to be incorporated in the bill to be presented to the house.

The war department's estimate of additional officers for the regular army also was increased from 784 to 1,000.

The section for reorganizing the national guard was turned to provide for a maximum strength of 474,000 men, of whom 80 per cent must be recruited within two years.

The senate committee has previously agreed on a provision of several summer student encampments at the direction of the president. Those who take the instruction would be mustered into a special federal reserve, pledging themselves to serve the country if needed but being quite apart from the regular army reserve or the national guard. The plan resembles the continental army scheme somewhat.

RUMOR OF TEUTON SUCCESS CAUSES BREAK IN WHEAT

Prices Drop From Five to Six Cents or More When Fall of Verdun Is Reported on Boards of Trade.

(By Evening Herald Leased Wire) Chicago, Feb. 26.—Wheat prices broke about a half today on account of depression in the New York stock market. Apparently many traders here jumped at the conclusion that the Wall street decline pointed to increased tension over the plains of Germany for attacks on armed merchant ships.

May wheat dropped to \$1.15 1/2 as against \$1.18 1/2 of yesterday's finish. Heavy stop loss selling took place.

Rumors that Verdun had fallen accompanied the fall of prices.

Demands to close in at a material extent the downward phase of the market. At the lowest figure, May wheat was down \$1.00 at \$1.15 1/2. The market closed excited at \$1.05 1/2 and May decline came with May at \$1.13 1/2 and July at \$1.10 1/2.

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Rumors that Verdun had fallen accompanied the fall of prices.

A train from Durango arriving today was fired upon by bandits. There were no casualties. Passenger trains from Chihuahua arrived today with no incident.

(By Evening Herald Leased Wire) Kansas City, Feb. 26.—Wheat prices broke five cents a bushel on the local market today following receipt of reports that Verdun had been captured by the Germans. May wheat, which closed at \$1.17 1/2 yesterday, closed on a range today of \$1.16 1/2 to \$1.15 1/2 and July, which closed at \$1.16 1/2 yesterday, closed today at \$1.14 1/2.

The machine was observed just before dawn. When it became light it disappeared in the direction of the new plant of the Minnesota Steel company on the St. Louis river.

An aeroplane recently was sighted near the Du Bois powder plant at Washburn.

(By Evening Herald Leased Wire) St. Louis, Mo., Feb. 26.—The man detained here yesterday suspected of being Jeanne Crones, wanted in Chicago in connection with an alleged poisoning plot, today was held on a fugitive warrant charging him with being Crones. It is understood the Chicago police are sending an officer after him.

Resumed debate on Senate power bill.

Judiciary subcommittee continued Brandeis inquiry.

Agricultural sub-committee continued sugar investigation.

(By Evening Herald Leased Wire) Washington, Feb. 26.—Military and naval committees worked on defense plans.

Postoffice appropriation bill debated under special rule.

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THE DAY IN CONGRESS

Senate

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RECONNAISANCE OF CARRANZIST GARRISON MADE

Villa Appears Before Casas Grandes and Takes Observations but Makes No Attack; Force Follows Him.

(By Evening Herald Leased Wire) El Paso, Tex., Feb. 26.—General Francisco Villa with about 400 men appeared before Casas Grandes late yesterday, took observations of the strength of the Carranzist garrison there and, wheeling to the south, departed according to General Garcia commandant of Juarez today.

Immediately upon his return General Bertrand at Casas Grandes with several hundred troops paralleled Villa's course in a military train along the Mexican Northwestern railroad and is due to arrive at Madero today. Villa, it was believed by General Garcia, is returning to Santa Ana on the way south, it was reported. He raidied supplies in small towns on the route.

The forces of General Bertrand were said by General Garcia to be moving out of Guadalupe northward to meet Villa at Santa Ana while General Bertrand has been ordered to move eastward from Madero.

General Jacinto Trevino, commandant of the forces of the northeast, was said to be at Piedras Negras opposite Eagle Pass, today en route back to Chihuahua to take command of the situation developed by Villa's activities.

"We had published Mr. Gilmore's charges and should be ought to be fully supported by us," said Mr. Happgood. "We felt that if the newspaper appeared in the situation it would detract from the main issue. We wanted to avoid the appearance of getting into little skirmishes."

No attempt had been made to do away with Mr. Brandeis' employment, Mr. Happgood said.

William Youngman testified at the hearing that the Warren will ease in which Mr. Brandeis was an attorney.

WAR DEPARTMENT IS IN FAVOR OF DEEPER CHANNEL IN CANAL

(By Evening Herald Leased Wire) Washington, Feb. 26.—Federal improvement of the Lake Washington ship canal, Washington, to life of a channel thirty rods deep below the locks and nearing completion and reduction of the canal banks, at a cost of \$2,000,000, was approved today by the war department.

The Lake Washington project contemplated removal of the canal banks without regard to the German bulletins which reports that the Germans are sending their boats along the Woermann front.

Although the substantial successes of the Woermann offensive claimed by the Germans, Paris has not conceded them. Regarding Tannenberg, the outlying fort whose capture is announced in Berlin, the French state that our forces in that region are making rapid progress.

The presence of Emperor William with his corps on the German front is officially denied by today's Berlin official bulletin.

While the German front on the east has been driven at Fort Douaumont and its protecting trench, the center of the crown prince's forces has worked down the Meuse valley. It is hammering at the ridge of La Cote du Poivre, just south of Louvion and about four and a half miles north of the main fortress.

Along the Verdon front the Germans are hurling their men against the French lines without regard to the safety of Paris, Paris declares, the fighting being particularly desperate in the region of Douaumont, almost directly north of Verdun.

The rain of shell fire in the September offensive of the allies was at the time without precedent, but correspondents near the front declare that it was terrible in comparison with the deluge of projectiles which are now pouring on the French trenches and fortifications from the masses batteries of the Germans.

A Petroleum disaster says the Russians have captured the Persian city of Kermanshan, which brings them within 150 mls. of the treacherous Kelt-el-Amara. An official announcement from Rome says that the Albanian port of Durazzo has been evacuated by the Italians.

Berlin, Feb. 26.—It was officially announced here today that Douaumont, one of the fortifications of Verdun, was taken by storm yesterday and is now held by Germans.

Fort Douaumont lies four miles northeast of Verdun. It is one of nearly a score of forts ringing Verdun and is about a mile to the north of the town, along east from the town.

Shortly before taking Verdun from the French, the Germans captured the fort and its garrison.

The capture of the fort was made by the troops of the 14th division, which has served the greatest service in the assault on the town.

The capture of Douaumont since the last portion of the German Army at Verdun—an onslaught which failed and went to the south of Verdun, failing to capture the fort.

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